

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

In The Specification:

Please replace the title amended in the Response filed on March 31, 2003 with the following re-written title:

Fibronectin Biopolymer ~~Marker~~ Markers ~~Predictive~~ Indicative Of Type II Diabetes

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 40, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Preparatory Protocols:

Any of these protocols may be selected from a column flow-through stream, a column elution stream, or a column scrub stream.

Hi Q is a strong anion exchanger made of methyl acrylate copolymer with the functional group: $-N^+(CH_3)_2$;

Hi S is a strong cation exchanger made of methyl acrylate copolymer with the functional group: $-SO_3^-$;

DEAE is a diethylaminoethyl which is a weak cation exchanger made of methyl acrylate copolymer with the functional group:

$-N^+(C_2H_5)_2$;

PS is phenyl ~~sepharose~~ SEPHAROSE;

BS is buytl ~~sepharose~~ SEPHAROSE.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 41, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Note that the supports, i.e. methyl acrylate and ~~sepharose~~ SEPHAROSE are different, but non-limiting examples, as the same functional group on different supports will function, albeit possibly with different effects.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 42, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Butyl ~~sepharose~~ SEPHAROSE column protocol:

- 1) Cast 150 μ l bed volume column;
- 2) Equilibrate column in 5 bed volumes of 1.7 M $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ in 50 mM PB pH 7.0 (binding buffer);
- 3) Dissolve 35 μ l of sera in 465 μ l of binding buffer and apply;
- 4) Wash column in 5 bed volumes of binding buffer;
- 5) Elute column in 120 μ l of 0.4 M $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ in 50 mM PB pH 7.0;
- 6) Elute column in 120 μ l of 50 mM PB pH 7.0;
- 7) Scrub column with 120 μ l sequentially with each of 0.1% triton, 1.0% triton and 2% SDS in 62.5 mM Tris pH 6.8.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 42, line 22,
with the following rewritten paragraph:

Phenyl ~~sepharose~~ SEPHAROSE column protocol:

- 1) Cast 150 μ l bed volume column;
- 2) Equilibrate column in 5 bed volumes of 1.7 M
(NH_4)₂SO₄ in 50 mM PB pH 7.0 (binding buffer);
- 3) Dissolve 35 μ l of sera in 465 μ l of binding buffer
and apply;
- 4) Wash column in 5 bed volumes of binding buffer;
- 5) Elute column in 120 μ l of 0.2 M (NH_4)₂SO₄ in 50 mM
PB pH 7.0;
- 6) Elute column in 120 μ l of 50 mM PB pH 7.0;
- 7) Scrub column with 120 μ l sequentially with each of
0.1% triton, 1.0% triton and 2% SDS in 62.5 mM Tris pH 6.8.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 46, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As a result of these procedures, the disease specific markers namely Fibronectin Precursors having a molecular weight of about 1629.94 daltons and a sequence of ~~VDVIPVNLPGEHGQR~~ SEQ ID NO:1, a molecular weight of about 1927.0442 daltons and a sequence of ~~(R)FLATTPNSLLVSWOPPR(A)~~ SEQ ID NO:2, a molecular weight of about 2127 daltons and a sequence of ~~HQLYIDETVNSNIPTNLR~~ SEQ ID NO:3, a molecular weight of about 1629.87 daltons and a sequence of ~~RVDVIPVNLPGEHGQR~~ SEQ ID NO:4, a molecular weight of about 1913.08 daltons and a sequence of ~~SSPVVIDASTAIDAPSNLR~~ SEQ ID NO:5, and a molecular weight of about 1682.96 daltons having a sequence of ~~IHLISTQSAIPYALR~~ SEQ ID NO:6 related to Type II diabetes were found.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 67, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The instant invention involves the use of a combination of preparatory steps in conjunction with mass spectroscopy and time-of-flight detection procedures to maximize the diversity of biopolymers which are verifiable within a particular sample. The cohort of biopolymers verified within such a sample is then viewed with reference to their ability to evidence at least particular disease state; thereby enabling a diagnostician to gain the ability to characterize either the presence or the absence of ~~said~~ at least one disease state relative to recognition of the presence and/or the absence of ~~said~~ the biopolymer, predict disease risk assessment, and develop therapeutic avenues against ~~said~~ the disease.